

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 SSO-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR -- WORLD AIRWAYS' REQUEST TO USE SALVADOR AS
PORT OF ENTRY

REF: STATE 016961

1. CONGEN OFFICER DISCUSSED REF SUBJECT WITH BRAZILIAN AVIATION AUTHORITIES (DAC) AND WITH WORLD AIRWAYS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE. CONVERSATIONS INDICATE CLEARLY THAT WORLD AIRWAYS REQUEST TO USE SALVADOR AS PORT OF ENTRY WILL NOT BE APPROVED AT THIS TIME. COMPANY'S LOCAL REP HAS ALREADY FILED FLIGHT PATTERN FOR JAN. 27 FLIGHTS SHOWING INITIAL STOP AT BELEM PRIOR TO LANDING IN SALVADOR.

2. SALVADOR AIRPORT WILL NOT BE DECLARED INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UNTIL CUSTOMS, HEALTH, AND IMMIGRATION FACILITIES ARE COMPLETED. TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION AND INAUGURATION OF THESE FACILITIES IS MARCH 3, 1975.

3. INFORMAL UNWRITTEN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN WORKED OUT EARLIER THIS MONTH WITH DAC DIRECTOR WHEREBY APPROVAL COULD BE OBTAINED FOR INDIVIDUAL NON-SCHEDULED FLIGHTS
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TO USE SALVADOR AS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. DURING RECENT

ABSENCE OF DAC DIRECTOR, SECOND ECHELON OFFICERS DID NOT FEEL THEY COULD ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR APPROVING TRANS-INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS (TIA) REQUEST TO UTILIZE SALVADOR AS PORT OF ENTRY. OFFICERS INSISTED THAT TIA LAND AND CLEAR CUSTOMS AT BELEM, AND THEN PROCEED TO SALVADOR. TIA IGNORED THOSE INSTRUCTIONS AND FLEW DIRECTLY TO SALVADOR, DESPITE FACT THAT IT HAD PREVIOUSLY FILED FLIGHT SCHEDULE WHICH INCLUDED BELEM. THAT ACTION ENDED ANY POSSIBILITY OF REVIVING EARLIER INFORMAL AGREEMENT AFTER DAC DIRECTOR HAD RETURNED. IF DAC EXTENDED BENEFITS OF INFORMAL AGREEMENT TO WORLD AIRWAYS WHILE DENYING THEM TO TIA, IT WOULD OPEN ITSELF TO SERIOUS CRITICISM.

4. DURING THE PAST YEAR DAC HAS REDUCED MARKEDLY ITS OPPOSITION TO NON-SCHEDULED FLIGHTS, WHICH IT STILL BELIEVES ATTRACT PASSENGERS FROM SCHEDULED AIRLINES. INDEED, DAC HAS APPROVED VERY EXTENSIVE PROGRAMS PROPOSED BY U.S. NON-SCHEDULED CARRIERS. RECENTLY, CARRIERS HAVE BEEN PRESENTING REQUESTS FOR INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT CLEARANCES WITHOUT ALLOWING AMPLE TIME FOR COMPLETE DAC REVIEW. THIS PROCEDURE HAS BEEN DIMINISHING MUCH OF THE DAC'S GOOD-WILL. STRONG PRESSURES AT THIS TIME TO USE SALVADOR AS PORT OF ENTRY WOULD FURTHER UNDERMINE DAC SYMPATHY FOR NON-SCHEDULED CARRIERS, THEREBY ENDANGERING THE AMBITIOUS PROGRAMS THOSE COMPANIES HAVE FOR THE FUTURE.

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